

that ratio; the pension roll will absorb the ordinary revenues of those nations for fifty years to come.

What is the world going to do? What is our country going to do? Millions of the debris that the flood of the great war has tossed as wreckage on the shore will find their way to our country. How are they, in competition with our own laborers to be given employment?

Is it not clear that our labor area should be widened? The law that demonetized silver, by indirection killed our export trade with the Orient and at the same time offered a premium of 60 per cent on all that the myriads of those lands could produce and send to us.

Is it not time that the mighty wrong should be revoked? Who would object?

Would it not be welcome legislation to all civilized nations?

Who would object but a few interest-gatherers?

And we need the money. We need to have every factory set in motion. We need a great merchant marine, to reestablish our prestige on the sea and enable us to take our rightful place in the world's commerce. We need the money to carry on a thousand enterprises on land.

Hundreds of millions are needed to prepare our country against possible attack, and to convert our waste lands into fruitful fields.

The old proposition comes back that money rules the world and measures the strength of nations. And all the money came from mining. All the industries depend upon it.

It is a prime factor in rating civilization itself.

And it is true that so long as silver had equal recognition with gold it had a steadier value than gold, and the truth of the old claim that not enough of both metals can be obtained to serve the world's needs for money grows more and more apparent every day.

### A Man Who Is a Blessing

TRUE men are trying to make honored names for themselves all the world around. That desire has been a mighty factor in civilizing a portion of the earth, it is one of the factors to be counted on to further advance civilization.

But when a man, with no desire for personal fame, unceremoniously by his work, makes a great name, he is one to be mentioned.

Such an one seems to be Charles Page of Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was the son of poor parents, and while but a little lad his father died and his mother was his only support. The impressions he received in those trying years went out with him into active life. He was strong, shrewd, alert and true, and made a large fortune. While gaining wealth, he helped all the poor that he knew to obtain work, his idea always having been that what a man has he should earn. After his mother died he cared for the other children until they no longer needed him, then he went out to fight for a fortune. He made three little fortunes, but they all got away from him. With the fourth trial he won.

A few miles from Tulsa an orphan's home had become bankrupt and the children were about to be turned out of doors.

Page heard of it, went down and legally adopted all the kids; then to a friend of his in the Salvation Army, Captain Breeding, he said: "I want you to take these kids out on my farm and make a home for them. You need some outdoor exercise yourself; put 'em in some big tents until we can run up some buildings. I cannot stand by and see them turned out in the cold."

A great many widows applied to him to find work for them. At last he said: "Guess I'll have to build a town for them." And he did.

When he asked Captain Breeding to take the

children and fix a home for them on his farm, the captain protested, saying: "I have a mission that I dare not neglect," to which Page replied: "God has called you to a greater mission. Here are a lot of children to be trained into useful citizens. There can be no greater work in the world."

The captain surrendered. There is more to the story but the above is enough for it shows the spirit of the man who is a little providence to the poor of that region. That spirit shines out and softens all the air of that region and makes many a turbulent man stop and think.

We suspect that the thought of what he is doing makes the sleep of Mr. Page himself sweeter at night.

### Professor Payne on the Desired Loan

THAT was a most interesting dispatch wired on Monday which gave the views of Professor K. W. Payne on what would follow were the great desired loan to be acceded to or rejected. The substance was that if refused England and France either would not be able to pay for the crop of our farmers, or if they could, it would pile up so much gold in New York that an era of speculation would set in which would end in greater prostration than was upon France when the South Sea bubble burst, or if the loan were to be made and France and England at last, through the stress of war should be obliged to repudiate their debts then an overwhelming panic would practically crush our country. Our thought is that if our government and people could but learn to handle the resources of this country as other countries through the experience of centuries have learned to handle theirs, we could well afford to lose the billion dollars sought of us by France and Great Britain for the education.

After all our foreign trade is but a trifle compared to our home trade, only the foreign trade fixes the prices of many of our products, like wheat, and cotton and indirectly corn, and supplies us with all the money we have except what is obtained annually from the mines.

The great need is to keep all the people in this country at work who desire to work, so that they can all live comfortably and have a little money to spend. Should this great loan be made, it would be from the surplus money in the banks, which money is not much help to producers, and has not been for several years, because it has been kept beyond the reach of the small producers which Professor Payne seems so anxious about.

The fiction of the vast amount that the banks expend to move the crops has been worked to a frazzle. Banks are not national benevolent institutions. Their object is to make money out of the necessities of the men who carry on the world's work.

When they advance money to move the crops they simply cash the drafts of men who have deposits with them.

And when Professor Payne talks about what is liable to happen in certain contingencies he should remember that the annual production of the farms and mines of our country amounts to half as much again as the desired loan, and what is needed is the knowledge by our government of the best way to handle its products.

THE I. W. W. throughout the country had better drop upon the fact that an old convict whose crimes culminate in the murder of a merchant and his son in order to perfect and conceal a robbery, is not a good subject to try to make capital out of. The reputation of their order among men who have to do honest work for a living is not of a kind to encourage them to pick up robbers and murderers to try to make martyrs of them.

### The Prospector

IN this crucial time in the world's affairs mining takes on a new significance.

Not only the precious but the base metals were never before so much in demand.

The metallic age has been ushered in. The world's transportation and the world's great industries never before so leaned upon the metals. From boring a decayed tooth to building a sky scraper or a great ship, for lighting the world's cities, the call for the metals is insatiable. Even the farmer is partially discarding the horse and doing his work by gasoline and steam.

The shells that explode in the bloody trenches are of steel and copper and nickel.

When the great war beyond the sea hushes its thunders, it will not be because of its horrors and sacrifices, but because of a lack of money to maintain national credit and to buy food and ammunition for the fighting men.

An agricultural country can feed its people, but progress and full enlightenment wait on money.

Agriculture is the dominant industry to feed men and animals.

But the progress, the full enlightenment and the offensive and defensive power of a nation come from mining.

Mining has transformed our country in the past sixty years. It has given life to such progress as was never seen in any land before; it has magnified the power of the great republic until the foremost of other nations begin to seem second class.

Occasionally a mine is discovered by accident. But that is not the rule.

The sapper and miner of mining is the prospector.

When the Comstock was discovered the prospectors started out, radiating in all directions. They speedily made Nevada the foremost of mining states; their graves are scattered over all the space between the Sierras and Rockies.

They were once a familiar figure in the mining towns of the west. A lonely man with eager eyes stealthily buying a few articles of coarse food or clothing; their faces showed that they had not yet struck it but were sure to in their next trek. A few realized their dream, but the great proportion marched by day, their eyes fixed on a mountain of gold which they saw just over the next divide, but when at night they lay down upon the ground to sleep, they were so weary that the sleep deepened into that other sleep which no dreams disturb.

They are almost extinct now. The restrictions which the government has drawn around mining has killed their hopes and mining is suffering because of their absence.

The mining states should take the matter in hand and offer rewards for every real discovery made.

### THE FAIR

With the weather man behaving and the promise of greater and better attractions and exhibits than were ever before seen at the State Fair, the week to come holds forth much promise for those interested in such events and most citizens have an interest in part or all of the annual show. Opening on Monday, it will continue for ten days and aside from the general fair features, there will be special events each afternoon and evening. A year ago the disagreeable weather and one or two other drawbacks not to be blamed entirely on the elements, pretty nearly spoiled the fair and seriously handicapped it from a financial standpoint.

This year, however, everything looks propitious and if it is anything but a great success, it will not be the fault of those who have had charge of the preparations.